Pulses and Oil Seeds Production

827. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production of pulses and oilseeds in the country during the year 1986-87;

(b) what steps Government have taken to encourage and promote increase in production of these cereals; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce Crop Insurance Scheme in respect of pulses and oilseeds in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Final estimates of production of pulses and oilseeds crops for the crop year 1986-87 from all the States have not yet fallen due. However, based upon preliminary reports received from States, it is currently assessed that all-India production of pulses during the crop year 1986-87 might be around 13.0 million tonnes and that of total nine oilseeds in the range of 12.2 to 12.5 million tonnes.

(b) In order to encourage and increase the production of pulses/oilseeds, following measures are being taken by the Government:

(i) Introduction of pulse/oilseeds crops in irrigated farming systems;

(ii) Bringing additional area under short duration varieties of Urad, moong etc., under cultivation;

(iii) Inter-cropping of Arhar in Bajra, Cotton, Sugarcane etc., both under irrigated and unirrigated conditions;

(iv) Multiplication and use of improved seeds.

(v) Use of fertilisers and rhizobium culture;

(vi) Adoption of plant protection measures;

(vii) Expansion of non-traditional oilseeds crops like Soyabean and Sunflower in potential areas;

(viii) Launching of National Oilseeds Development Project and Oilseeds Technology Mission in 180 potential districts for better production of oilseeds; and

(ix) Adoption of appropriate policies including pricing and marketing.

(c) Pulses and oilseeds are already covered under Crop Insurance Scheme in various States.

Drought Relief to Gujarat

828. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat had recently submitted a master plan of Rs. 96 crores to deal with unprecedented drought situation;

(b) what is the response of the Central Government to this master plan and the financial and other assistance sanctioned this year for Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to fight the drought;

(c) the Central financial assistance sanctioned last year for drilling four inches bores in Gujarat, how many four inches bores were drilled and out of them how many are usable now; and

(d) whether drilling of six inches bores is likely to be useful in getting required quantity of water, if so, what is the cost of each such bore and the time it likely to take to drill them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat submitted a memorandum seeking Central assistance for tackling the drought situation in the

State involving an outlay of Rs. 429.87 crores. This included a sum of Rs. 94.23 crores for implementing a Master Plan for drinking water. Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief thereon, a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 66.51 crores has been approved for drought relief in the Gujarat for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88. This includes a sum of Rs. 10.99 crores for 1986-87 and Rs. 9.27 crores for 1987-88 for drinking water sector. The total ceilings of expenditure approved so far for tackling drought for the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu during the post 1986 monsoon period are as follows:—

(*Rs. in Crores*)

State	Ceiling approved for	
	1986-87 (Post-monsoon)	1987-88
1. Gujarat	34·96	31·55
2. Maharashtra	23·98	12·29
3. Rajasthan	42·75	12·07
4. Andhra Pradesh	23·19	25·19
5. Karnataka	3·82	0·99
6. Tamil Nadu	31·77	..

(c) As per the Master Plan for 1986-87 prepared by the Government of Gujarat the number of 100 mm (4 inches) bores to be drilled by April 1987 is 67,36. Figures of the successful bores drilled so far are not available.

(d) Drilling of bore size i.e. 6 inches|4 inches depends upon geological and geo-hydrological conditions at sites and requirements of water there. The cost of each such bore and the time required for its drilling also varies upon geo-hydrological conditions and depth of drilling.

Amendment to the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976

829. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer the reply to Unstarred Question 1268 given in Rajya Sabha on the 6th March, 1987 and to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision regarding the amendment of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in the prices of wheat to be supplied through Fair Price Shops

830. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently increased the price of wheat to be supplied through Fair Price Shops with effect from 1st May, 1987;

(b) if so, the extent to which price have been increased;

(c) what are the reasons for such an increase; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to affect the poor people of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Consequant upon increase in the procurement price of wheat by Rs. 4 per quintal from 1st April, 1987, the central issue price of wheat supplied to the State|Governments|Union Territory Administrations for sale through the public distribution system has been revised from Rs. 190 to Rs. 195 per quintal, with effect from 1st May, 1987. The retail price of wheat for the consumer is fixed by the State Governments after adding